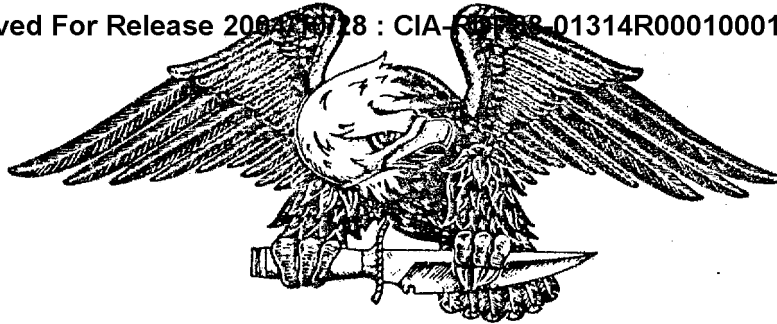


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THE AMERICAN BLADE

THE MAGAZINE FOR CUTLERY ENTHUSIASTS

20:JANUARY:75

Press Officer
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Sir:

From time to time, various references are made to edged weapons supposedly possessed by members of America's intelligence service.

It is my belief that the readers of AMERICAN BLADE would welcome favorably stated information regarding the above, whether, by its nature, such information would be of either a specific or general nature.

As we have tentatively scheduled a brief article treating this subject, I would appreciate the receipt of any information relative to the above that your office may care to provide.

It is my belief that the larger percentage of our readers will enthusiastically support the need for the intelligence service to maintain such items, and would view the "official" acknowledgement of this need in a most favorable light.

A point of specific interest would be the clarification of whether or not the Central Intelligence Agency has ever utilized the services of any of this country's noted custom knifemakers or edged weapons designers. Would the Agency be interested in considering new or unique designs? Are Agency personnel issued edged weapons in special situations, or is the selection of such items left to the individual? Is there any information regarding a preferred brand, style, or make?

Further, would your office be able to furnish the name of an individual who we could contact for information regarding combat training in the use of edged weapons? This is a particularly popular topic with our readers, and one which we would welcome the opportunity to expand upon.

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P. O. BOX 1458 GRETN, LA. 70053

(504) 393-2838